

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 SSM-03 SAM-01

PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 INR-07 DODE-00 EB-07 OES-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, IZ

SUBJ: ALLEGED THREAT BY U.S. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE OF MILITARY
ACTION IN NEW OIL EMBARGO

1. SEMI-OFFICIAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY BAGHDAD OBSERVER IN
ISSUE OF AUGUST 24 BEGINS LONG ARTICLE ENTITLED QUOTE WASHINGTON
MAKES NEW THREATS UNQUOTE WITH FOLLOWING STATEMENT: QUOTE:
THE U.S. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, ELLIOT RICHARDSON, HAS RECENTLY
UNLEASHED NEW THREATS AGAINST THE ARABS. HE SAID THAT THE UNITED
STATES WILL RESORT TO QUOTE DECISIVE MILITARY ACTION UNQUOTE
IN CASE THE ARAB COUNTRIES INTRODUCED A NEW OIL EMBARGO, SUCH
AS THAT EFFECTED DURING THE OCTOBER WAR OF 1973, AND ITS AFTER-
MATH. RICHARDSON TRIED TO JUSTIFY HIS THREATS BY POINTING
OUT THE FACT THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS BECOME STILL MORE
DEPENDENT ON ARAB OIL AFTER 1973 AND THAT THE EFFECTS OF A CUT-
OFF OF OIL SUPPLIES WILL BE QUOTE DISASTROUS UNQUOTE FOR AMERICA.
UNQUOTE.

2. ARTICLE GOES ON TO ARGUE THAT "GREED FOR MAINTAINING AND
INCREASING PROFITS" IS MOTIVATION FOR ALLEGED STATEMENT BY
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND ACCUSES U.S. OF PLOT TO USE OTHER'S
NATURAL RESOURCES RATHER THAN THE ABUNDANCE FOUND WITHIN
AMERICA'S OWN BORDERS.

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3. PLEASE SEND TEXT OR CITE LIKELY OCCASION OF SECRETARY
RICHARDSON'S ALLEGED REMARKS AND FURNISH SOME BACKGROUND.
CONCEIVABLY, IRAQIS HAVE MISCONSTRUED SECRETARY'S REMARKS.
ONLY TEXT WE HAVE WHICH MIGHT HAVE FURNISHED OCCASION FOR
IRAQI OUTBURST IS P 10 COMMERCE AMERICA FOR AUGUST 16--WHICH
CLEARLY SAYS NOTHING REMOTELY RESEMBLING WHAT IRAQI PRESS
ALLEGES. COMMERCE AMERICA ARTICLE APPEARS TO BE SYNOPSIS
OF SPEECH IN WASHINGTON BY SECRETARY BEFORE INTERNATIONAL
PLATFORM ASSOCIATION.
KILLOUGH

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Message Attributes

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